

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): An artificial knee joint which comprises a femoral component to be secured to a distal portion of a femur and a tibia component to be secured to a proximal portion of a tibia, comprising ~~an inner a~~ medial sliding surface and ~~an outer a lateral~~ sliding surface for receiving a load of the femoral component at the tibia component, wherein the ~~inner medial~~ sliding surface is formed in a sectional shape of circular arc at the ~~front anterior~~ and ~~rear posterior~~ side(s) in the ~~front-to-back~~ anterior-to-posterior direction thereof, while the ~~outer lateral~~ sliding surface is formed in a sectional shape of circular arc at the ~~front anterior~~ side and in a sectional shape of linear at the ~~rear posterior~~ side(s) in the ~~front-to-back~~ anterior-to-posterior direction thereof, wherein the anterior side of the medial sliding surface makes a circular arc having a curvature radius R_1 at a longitudinal section and the posterior side makes a circular arc having a curvature radius R_2 , wherein $R_1 < R_2$.

2. (Currently amended): An artificial knee joint according to claim [[1]] 4, wherein a middle portion of the ~~inner medial~~ sliding surface of the tibia component is formed in a linear sectional shape in the ~~front-to-back~~ anterior-to-posterior direction.

3. (Currently amended): An artificial knee joint according to claim [[1]] 4, wherein the ~~outer~~ lateral sliding surface of the tibia component is formed in a sectional shape of circular arc in a direction orthogonal to the ~~front-to-back~~ anterior-to-posterior direction thereof, and a curvature radius of the circular arc is gradually increased from the ~~front~~ anterior side to the ~~rear~~ posterior side in the longitudinal direction thereof.

4. (New): An artificial knee joint which comprises a femoral component to be secured to a distal portion of a femur and a tibia component to be secured to a proximal portion of a tibia, comprising a medial sliding surface and ~~an~~ a lateral sliding surface for receiving a load of the femoral component at the tibia component, wherein the medial sliding surface is formed in a sectional shape of circular arc portion at the anterior and posterior side(s) in the anterior-to-posterior direction thereof, while the lateral sliding surface is formed in a sectional shape of circular arc portion at the anterior side and in a sectional shape of linear portion at the posterior side(s) in the anterior-to-posterior direction thereof, wherein an anterior edge of the sectional circular arc portion at the anterior side of the lateral sliding surface is positioned at the femoral component side to an extending line from the linear portion at the posterior side(s) in the anterior-to-posterior direction thereof.

5. (New) An artificial knee joint according to claim 4, wherein an anterior edge of the sectional circular arc portion at the anterior side of the lateral sliding surface is positioned at a closer level to the femoral component side than that of a posterior edge of the linear portion at the posterior side(s) in the anterior-to-posterior direction thereof.

6. (New) An artificial knee joint according to claim 4, wherein the tibia component is composed of a tray member and a sliding member that has the medial sliding surface and the lateral sliding surface, and an anterior edge thickness of the sliding member at the anterior side of the lateral sliding surface is larger than that of a posterior edge thickness of the sliding member at the posterior side of the lateral sliding surface in the anterior-to-posterior direction thereof.

7. (New) An artificial knee joint according to claim 4, wherein the circular arc portion at the anterior side of the lateral sliding surface is a concave face to the femoral component in the anterior-to-posterior direction thereof.

8. (New) An artificial knee joint according to claim 4, wherein the circular arc portion at the anterior side of the lateral sliding surface is a concave face to the femoral component and is connected to the linear portion in the anterior-to-posterior direction thereof.

9. (New) An artificial knee joint according to claim 1, wherein the anterior side in the lateral sliding surface makes a circular arc having a curvature R1 at a longitudinal section.